

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03471 122246Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----114486 122249Z /73

O 122051Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8025
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T OTTAWA 03471

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, MOPS, UNSC, PINT, LE, IS, SY
SUBJECT: LEBANON: CANADIAN VIEWS

REF: STATE 172481

1. DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS SHENSTONE
AND HIS DEPUTY FRASER TOLD DCM AND POLITICAL COUNSELOR
JULY 12 THAT THEY AGREE COMPLETELY WITH VIEWS, CON-
TAINED IN REFTEL, ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING
SARKIS IN THE PRESIDENCY, OF MAINTAINING THE CEASEFIRE,
AND OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS' USING THEIR INFLUENCE TO
CALM THE SITUATION. SHENSTONE INDICATED THAT OFFICIAL
OF CANADIAN EMBASSY IN BEIRUT, WHO WAS ON LEAVE IN
TURKEY AND IS NOW IN DAMASCUS, HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO
CONVEY TO SYRIAN AUTHORITIES CANADA'S STRONG CONCERN
ABOUT RECENT SYRIAN ACTIONS IN LEBANON WHICH HAVE
SERIOUSLY UNDERMINED POSITION OF SARKIS. THIS DEMARCHE

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WILL BE FOLLOWED UP SHORTLY BY SIMILAR APPROACH BY
CANADIAN AMBASSADOR BEIRUT WHO IS ALSO ACCREDITED TO
SYRIA. CANADIANS BELIEVE THAT ASSAD IS IN REAL
DILEMMA ON HOW TO PROCEED IN LEBANON AND THAT HIS
INTERNAL POSITION IN SYRIA IS BY NO MEANS SECURE.
ENDERS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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